



FACT SHEET: HSDRRS Mitigation

Updated: 27 MAY 2011

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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Project purpose

The Corps is making a concerted effort to avoid and minimize environmental impacts to the maximum extent practical while developing the Greater New Orleans Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS). When habitat losses occur, the Corps will compensate for such losses through compensatory mitigation. Compensatory mitigation is an important part of HSDRRS construction and could include habitat restoration, enhancement, or preservation.

Project location

Generally, impacts generated from the Lake Pontchartrain & Vicinity (LPV) hurricane project will be mitigated in the Lake Pontchartrain Basin, between I-12 and the Mississippi River. Similarly, impacts generated from the West Bank & Vicinity (WBV) hurricane project will be mitigated in the Barataria Basin, between Bayou Lafourche and the Mississippi River. **See map on reverse.**

Project features

The HSDRRS mitigation project team is evaluating potential large scale mitigation plans east and west of the Mississippi River, near New Orleans, in cooperation with environmental resource agencies and non-federal sponsors. Currently, the plan is to compensate for four habitat categories impacted during development of the risk reduction system: wet and dry bottomland hardwood forests, swamps and marshlands.

*Current estimated habitat impacts from constructing the LPV and WBV hurricane projects

Habitat Type	LPV – Approximate Acres	WBV – Approximate Acres
Bottomland Hardwood	234	1,124
Swamp	167	625
Marshlands	346	120
Total	747	1,869

*To compensate for these impacts, the mitigation acreage may be larger than the impact acreage. Impacts were last updated March 16, 2011.

Project status

The Corps' ongoing mitigation efforts include periodic Individual Environmental Report (IER) update meetings. There have been seven meetings thus far, five in May 2010 and two in December 2010. The New Orleans District, in collaboration with its state and federal partners and stakeholders, is currently exploring potential mitigation sites that fulfill the legal requirements for HSDRRS mitigation. For LPV and WBV, initial screening of measures is complete (Jul and Aug 2010, respectively). Future milestones include: Data Collection (Jun 2011), Assemble Alternative Plans (Sep 2011), Identify Proposed Plan (Oct 2011), Draft IERs (May 2012), Final Design (Aug 2012), Mitigation Land Acquisition (Sep 2012 thru Sep 2013), and Issue Construction Contracts (Sep 2013).

For more information, please visit nolaenvironmental.gov.

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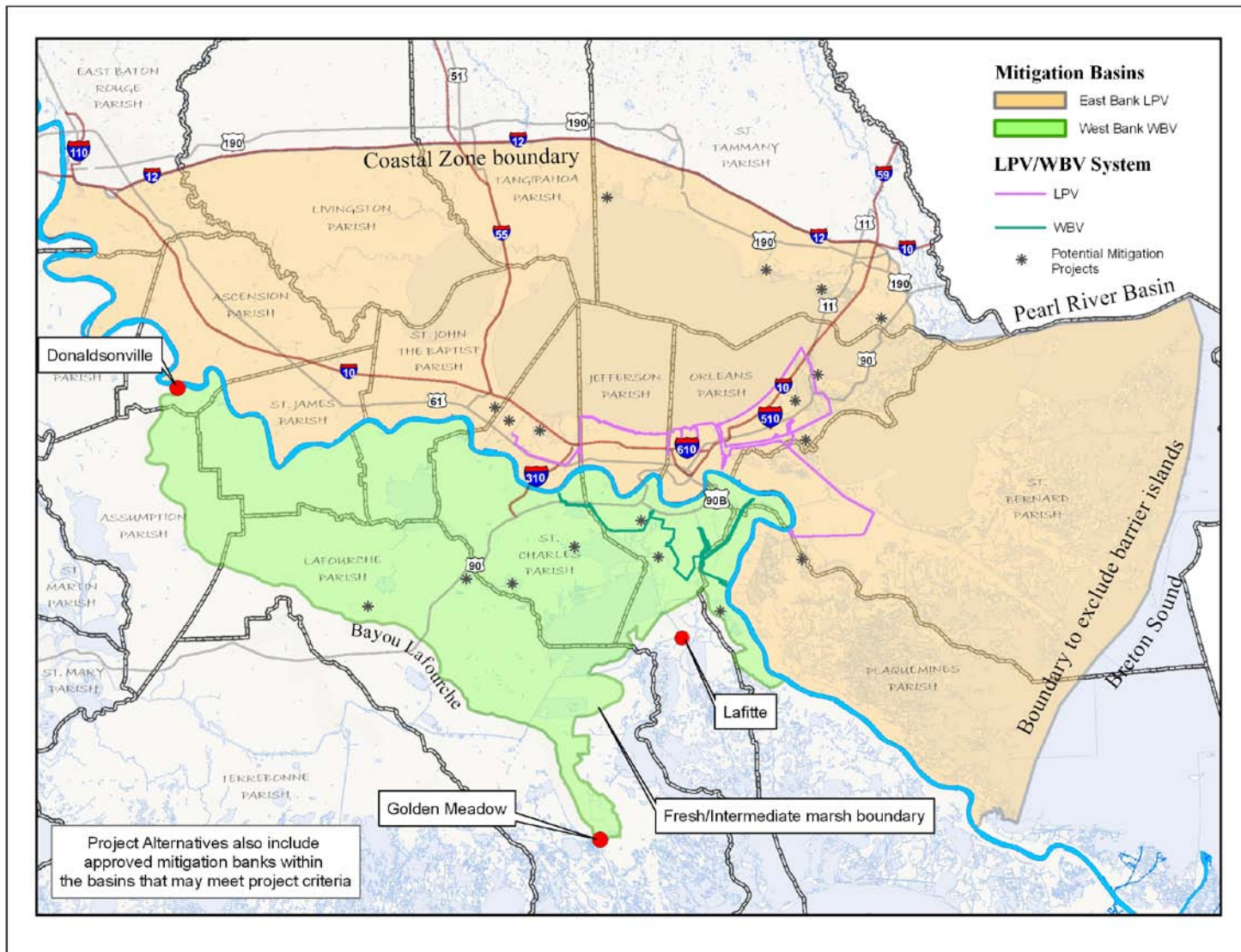
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Lake Pontchartrain & Vicinity and West Bank & Vicinity Project Map



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